

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method comprising:

representing a first collection of media objects using a first sheet having a first graphical content representing the media objects;

creating a second collection of media objects from the first collection of media objects; and

re-marking the first sheet to include a second graphical content representing the second collection of media objects.

2. The method defined in Claim 1 further comprising:

scanning a first identifier on the sheet;

erasing the first sheet;

adding one or more other media objects to the first collection of media objects to create the second collection of media objects; and

marking the first sheet with a second identifier to identify the second collection and the second graphical content.

3. The method defined in Claim 2 wherein the media objects are scanned pages.
4. The method defined in Claim 2 wherein the media objects are electronic documents or images from a digital memory card.
5. The method defined in Claim 2 wherein marking the first sheet comprises identifying open areas on the sheet based on scanned information and determining where to mark the sheet based on the open areas.
6. The method defined in Claim 2 further comprising:
accessing the first collection of media objects using the first identifier; and
scanning the one or more pages of the one or more other media objects.
7. The method defined in Claim 2 wherein the first identifier and the second identifier are identical.
8. The method defined in Claim 2 wherein re-marking the first sheet comprises identifying open areas on the sheet based on scanned information and determining where to mark the sheet based on the open areas.

9. The method defined in Claim 1 further comprising accessing the first collection using a first identifier, wherein the first identifier comprises a machine-readable identifier.

10. The method defined in Claim 9 wherein the machine-readable identifier comprises a barcode.

11. The method defined in Claim 9 wherein the first identifier comprises a radio frequency identifier (RFID).

12. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein re-marking the first sheet only occurs in a first mode of operation, and further comprising marking a second sheet with the second graphical content in a second mode of operation, where the second mode is different than the first mode of operation.

13. The method defined in Claim 12 wherein marking the second sheet with the second graphical content occurs while erasing the first sheet.

14. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein the first sheet comprises a medical information of a patient.

15. The method defined in Claim 14 wherein the first collection of media objects comprises patient objects regarding a patient, and further wherein the second collection of media objects represents an updated version of the patient objects for the patient.

16. The method defined in Claim 1 further comprising marking the sheet with a machine-readable indicator that indicates that the sheet is not to be erased.

17. The method defined in Claim 16 wherein the indicator is erasable.

18. The method defined in Claim 16 wherein the indicator is one of a predetermined shape, pattern, or color.

19. An article of manufacture having one or more recordable media storing instructions thereon which, when executed by a system, cause the system to perform a method comprising:

representing a first collection of media objects using a first sheet having a first graphical content representing the media objects;

creating a second collection of media objects from the first collection of media objects; and

re-marking the first sheet to include a second graphical content representing the second collection of media objects.

20. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 18 wherein the method further comprises:

scanning a first identifier on the sheet;

erasing the first sheet;

adding one or more pages of the one or more other media objects to the first collection of media objects to create the second collection of media objects; and

marking the first sheet with a second identifier to identify the scanned collection and the second graphical content.

21. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 20 wherein the first identifier and the second identifier are identical.

22. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 20 wherein the method further comprises:

accessing the first collection of media objects using the first identifier; and
scanning the one or more pages of the one or more other media objects.

23. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 22 wherein re-marking the first sheet comprises identifying open areas on the sheet based on scanned information and determining where to mark the sheet based on the open areas.

24. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 19 wherein the method further comprises accessing the first collection using a first identifier, and wherein the first identifier comprises a machine-readable identifier.

25. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 24 wherein the machine-readable identifier comprises a barcode.

26. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 24 wherein the first identifier comprises a radio frequency identifier (RFID).

27. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 19 wherein re-marking the first sheet only occurs in a first mode of operation, and further wherein marking the second graphical content on a second sheet in a second mode of operation different than the first mode of operation.

28. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 27 wherein marking the second graphical content on the second sheet occurs while erasing the first sheet.

29. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 19 wherein the first sheet comprises patient objects regarding patient information of a patient and re-marking the first sheet results in updating the patient information.

30. The article of manufacture defined in Claim 29 wherein the first collection of media objects comprises patient objects regarding a patient, and further wherein the second collection of media objects represents an updated version of the patient objects for the patient.

31. An apparatus comprising:
a memory to store an image of a first sheet representing a first collection of media objects, the first sheet having a first graphical content representing the media objects;

a processing unit to create a second collection of media objects from the first collection of media objects; and

a marking engine to re-mark the first sheet to include a second graphical content representing the second collection of media objects.

32. The apparatus defined in Claim 31 further comprising:

a scanner to scan a first identifier on the sheet;

an erasing unit to erase the first sheet;

wherein the processing unit adds one or more pages of the one or more other media objects to the first collection of media objects to create the second collection of media objects; and further wherein the marking engine marks the first sheet with a second identifier to identify the second collection and the second graphical content.

33. The apparatus defined in Claim 31 wherein the first sheet has a first identifier to identify the first collection, and wherein the first identifier comprises a machine-readable identifier.

34. The apparatus defined in Claim 33 wherein the machine-readable identifier comprises a barcode.

35. The apparatus defined in Claim 31 wherein the first sheet has a first identifier to identify the first collection, and wherein the first identifier comprises a radio frequency identifier (RFID).

36. The apparatus defined in Claim 31 wherein the first identifier and a second identifier to identify the second collection are identical.

37. The apparatus defined in Claim 31 wherein the first sheet comprises representations of objects related to patient information and re-marking the first sheet results in updating the medical file.

38. An apparatus comprising:
means for representing a first collection of media objects using a first sheet having a first graphical content representing the media objects;
means for creating a second collection of media objects from the first collection of media objects; and
means for re-marking the first sheet to include a second graphical content representing the second collection of media objects.

39. An apparatus comprising:

a scanner to scan a sheet having a first collection of media objects represented by graphical content;

an erasing unit coupled to receive the sheet from the scanner to erase the sheet;

a processing unit to modify the first collection of media objects by adding one or more pages of the one or more other media objects to the first collection of media objects to create a second collection of media objects;

a marking unit to re-mark the sheet with a new identifier and new graphic content representing the second collection of media objects.

40. The apparatus defined in Claim 39 wherein the processing unit is operable to decode a collection identifier and to access the first collection of media objects based in the collection identifier.

41. The apparatus defined in Claim 39 wherein the collection identifier comprises a barcode.

42. The apparatus defined in Claim 39 further comprising a scanned sheet feeder coupled to the scanner to send the sheet to the erasing unit if the sheet is re-writable.

43. A method comprising:

accessing information corresponding to a patient by accessing a first collection of media objects using a first sheet that has a first identifier and a first graphical content representing the media objects;

modifying the information corresponding to the patient by creating a second collection of media objects from the first collection of media objects; and

re-marking the first sheet to include a second identifier and to have a second graphical content representing the second collection of media objects in order to create a hardcopy version of the medical file.

44. The method defined in Claim 43 wherein the second collection comprises one or more documents regarding the patient.

45. An article of manufacture having one or more recordable media storing instructions thereon which, when executed by a system, cause the system to perform a method comprising:

accessing information corresponding to a patient by accessing a first collection of media objects using a first sheet that has a first identifier and a first graphical content representing the media objects;

modifying the information corresponding to the patient by creating a second collection of media objects from the first collection of media objects; and

re-marking the first sheet to include a second identifier and to have a second graphical content representing the second collection of media objects in order to create a hardcopy version of the medical file.

46. A method comprising:

scanning a portion of a document to obtain first scanned data;

storing the first scanned data in a memory;

performing an erasing operation on the document at the location of the portion;

scanning the portion of the document to obtain second scanned data;

determining whether the first and second scanned data are the same to indicate whether the document was erased.

47. A method comprising:

detecting a writable mark when scanning a coversheet;

preventing modification to the coversheet in response to detecting the writable mark.

48. A method comprising:

representing a first collection of media objects using a sheet;
scanning the sheet having the first collection representation;
identifying the first collection based on the scanned image;
creating a second collection of media objects; and
re-marking the sheet to represent the second collection.

49. The method defined in Claim 48 further comprising
determining a difference between representations for the first and second
collections; and
erasing a portion of the sheet based on the difference between the
representations of the first and second collections.

50. A method comprising:
erasing a portion of the sheet having a representation of a collection of media
objects, wherein the representation includes graphical context to represent the media
objects;
marking the portion of the sheet with updated information.

51. The method defined in Claim 50 wherein the updated information
comprises a timestamp.

52. The method defined in Claim 50 further comprising scanning the portion of the sheet, prior to erasing, to obtain scanned information, and wherein the updated information is based on the scanned information.